



Juliet, Naked

By Nick Hornby

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From the beloved *New York Times*– bestselling author, a quintessential Nick Hornby tale of music, superfandom, and the truths and lies we tell ourselves about life and love.

Nick Hornby returns to his roots—music and messy relationships—in this funny and touching novel that thoughtfully and sympathetically looks at how lives can be wasted but how they are never beyond redemption. Annie lives in a dull town on England’s bleak east coast and is in a relationship with Duncan that mirrors the place; Tucker, once a brilliant songwriter and performer, has gone into seclusion in rural America—or at least that’s what his fans think. Duncan is obsessed with Tucker’s work to the point of derangement, and when Annie dares to go public on her dislike of his latest album, there are quite unexpected, life-changing consequences for all three.

Nick Hornby uses this intriguing canvas to explore why it is we so often let the early promise of relationships, ambition, and indeed life, evaporate. And he comes to some surprisingly optimistic conclusions about the struggle to live up to one’s promise.

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Juliet, Naked By Nick Hornby Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #262075 in Books
- Published on: 2010-09-07
- Released on: 2010-09-07
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.95" h x .84" w x 5.16" l, .72 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 406 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Starred Review. Hornby returns to his roots: music, manic fandom and messy romance in his funny and touching latest, dancing between three perspectives on fame: a sycophantic scholar, an appreciative audience member, a fabled singer-songwriter who can't see what all the fuss is about. After cult musician Tucker Crowe vanished from the public eye 20 years ago, his small but devoted fan base built up a mythology around his oeuvre and the people and places associated with his storied life. Self-appointed Crowologist Duncan has indoctrinated his girlfriend, Annie, on the wonders of Tucker, but when Annie fails to recognize the genius of a newly released version of Crowe's classic album *Juliet*, their 15-year relationship quickly crumbles. Meanwhile, Duncan's glowing first review is increasingly de-bated, while Annie's deconstructive essay posted on the same Web site earns her a clandestine e-mail correspondence with the reclusive musician. Soon, their exchanges grow more personal; given that Tucker lives in an American backwater and Annie resides in a remote English town, both view their e-mails as a safe flirtation until the dissolution of Tucker's latest marriage and a crisis with one of his several neglected children brings him to Annie's side of the Atlantic. Through brisk dialogue and quick scene changes, Hornby highlights each character's misconceptions about his or her own life, and though Duncan, Annie and Tucker are consistently ridiculous and often self-destructive, they are portrayed with an extraordinary degree of sympathy. Tucker's status of Dylan by way of Salinger allows for an intriguing critique of celebrity fetishization and of the motives behind the eccentricity that comes along with fame. Obviously, this is a must-read for Hornby's fans, but it also works as a surprisingly thoughtful complement to the piles of musician bios and memoirs. (Sept.)

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From [The New Yorker](#)

Hornby's books are almost shamefully readable. They can suffer from simplistic premises and too many corny jokes, but his characters are always richly, sympathetically drawn. In this novel of aging, love, and regret, Annie lives in a decaying seaside town in England, where her partner of convenience, Duncan, immerses himself in the esoterica of an obscure American singer-songwriter, Tucker Crowe, who quit the business twenty years earlier and hasn't been heard from since. When Tucker releases a demo version of his most famous album, "Juliet," Duncan's and Annie's divergent reactions (he loves it, she hates it) pull them apart. Through a series of entertaining if implausible events, Annie and Tucker strike up a friendship. The story is tinged with despair, and though the ending offers little by way of hope, its bittersweet ambiguity lends it maturity.

From [Bookmarks Magazine](#)

Hornby is best known for his riffs on modern (male) love, music, and pop culture. While critics generally praised his newest novel, all agreed that Hornby replays his stock themes without stretching himself as an artist. (But despite his predictability, the *Washington Post* points out: "[W]ho's complaining? After all, we always expect Bruce Springsteen to sound like Bruce Springsteen.") What is new, however, is Hornby's focus on a woman's—Annie's—perspective on relationships and a foray into American culture. And the novel contains Hornby's beloved "sardonic humor and a pitch-perfect knowledge of pop culture and music and the ways they influence us" (*Miami Herald*), as well as marvelous characters and comic, charming moments—exactly why many readers will continue to love Hornby.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Loren Benton:

Book is usually written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can understand everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Close to that you can your reading proficiency was fluently. A e-book Juliet, Naked will make you to end up being smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about almost everything. But some of you think this open or reading a new book make you bored. It isn't make you fun. Why they are often thought like that? Have you searching for best book or suitable book with you?

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